TENNIS COMMITTEE MEETING
MHSAA OFFICE
JANUARY 11, 2011

Committee Members

Sue Bailey, DeWitt

Mike Bakker, Fenton

Larry Brown, Parma

Jim Hanson, Novi

Gary Ellis, Allegan

Pam Porter, Stevensville

Barry Hobrla, Lowell

Tom Hunt, East Lansing

Pete Militzer, Portage

Mark Randolph, Ann Arbor

Tiger Teusink, Holland (Advisory)

Jim Cummins, Battle Creek (Advisory)

Absent

Wendy Franz, Midland

MHSAA Staff

Gina Mazzolini (Recorder)

The MHSAA Tennis Committee met on Jan. 11, 2011 in the MHSAA Office. The committee was reminded of its responsibility and the process for rule changes. The following action was taken.

PROPOSALS BY MHSTeCA

1. Request that tennis be exempt from the summer "Dead Period" provision of the MHSAA.

2. Allow players to wear manufactured sleeveless tennis shirts (no tank tops) as a legal shirt in boys tennis.

3. For all regular season contests, unless prohibited by conference/league rules, allow a coach to substitute directly into the line-up for any absent player, upon the approval of the other coach(es) involved in that contest.

4. Require USTA officials at all MHSAA Final tournaments.

5. Deduct a team point for a flagrant unsportsmanlike violation committed by a non-playing member of a team at any time during an MHSAA tournament.

REQUESTS TO THE MHSAA STAFF FROM MHSTeCA

1. Post Regional tournament results on the MHSAA website, similar to what is done with other sports. Create template for the information needed.

2. Post boys tennis Regional assignments earlier so that schools may schedule contests with teams in their Regional.

3. Clarify what coaches need to do to assist the MHSAA in investigating challenges to a team's line-up.

DISCUSSION – NO ACTION

1. Tom Minter, from the MHSAA, explained the proposed changes in student-athlete physical cards. The committee members provided input for Mr. Minter to share with the Representative Council.

2. No action was taken on a proposal to modify the number of allowable seeds at the Regional tournament, depending on the number of teams, or to mandate the use of four seeds at each flight at the Regionals. However, a notation will be added to the Tournament Manager's Manual after the statement: "that up to four seeds per flight may be selected." (This is for those Regions with significant players with good records). Players must distinguish themselves to receive a seed; if no significant play, only seed 3.

The MHSTeCA will establish a Claims Committee to handle complaints by coaches against other schools. The committee commended the coaches association for attempting to promote sporting conduct across the state.

ITEMS TO BE CLARIFIED

1. Tennis Tournament Manual: During the draw procedure…Add: "If this new situation violates the two-time restriction, then the first drawn school shall go to the second-to-the last line drawn (or third-to-last if necessary)."

2. The Regional Seed Committee Responsibility:
   a. Establish Seeds
   b. Conduct the Draw
   c. Resolve line-up disputes after the information is presented. A vote will be taken by members attending the meeting (one vote per school) and simple majority prevails.

POINTS OF EMPHASIS
1. Seed Committee Responsibility
2. Procedure for challenging a line-up
3. Document each challenge match and use a consistent format
4. Go to MHSAA website - Coaches Box – for all Handouts and Resources

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

1. Request that tennis be exempt from the summer "Dead Period" provision of the MHSAA. (10-1)

2. Allow players to wear manufactured sleeveless tennis shirts (no tank tops) as a legal shirt in boys tennis. (6-5)

3. For all regular season contests, unless prohibited by conference/league rules, allow a coach to substitute directly into the line-up for any absent player, upon the approval of the other coach(es) involved in that contest. (11-0)

4. Require USTA officials at all MHSAA Final tournaments. (11-0)

5. Deduct a team point for a flagrant unsportsmanlike violation committed by a non-playing member of a team at any time during an MHSAA tournament. (11-0)